

A METHOD OF HOLDING GALEA HEMOSTATS IN CRANIOTOMIES

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AS ONE OF the early steps in the standard technique of performing craniotomies for intracranial surgery, a number of small clamps are placed on the galea about one centimeter apart in order to secure hemostasis. Usually the hemostats are grouped together either by the use of a piece of gauze, or by winding a rubber band around them. A clamp was

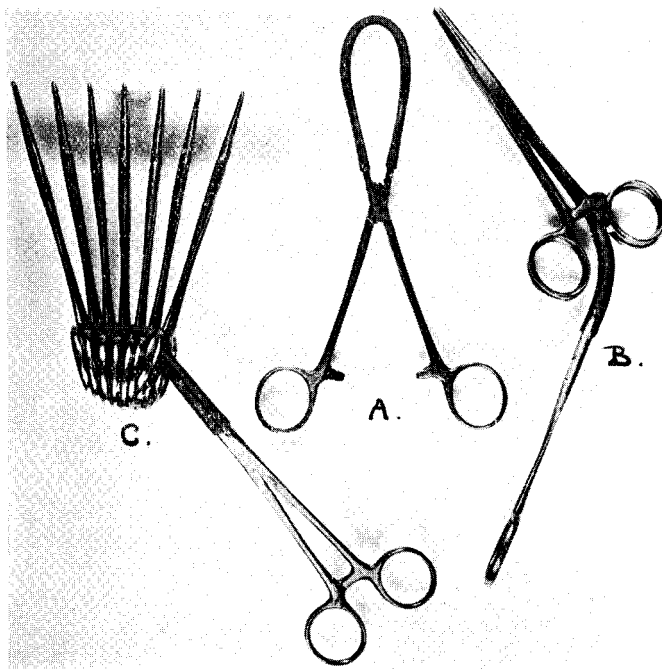


FIG. 1. A, Holding clamp showing rubber tubing attached to the blades; clamp open. B, Holding clamp applied to a single hemostat to show the application on one ring. C, Holding clamp applied to a series of hemostats showing its appearance and method of use in an actual operation.

devised in order to obviate the necessity of using these methods which at times are unwieldy.

A piece of latex rubber tubing about 0.5 centimeters in diameter and 14 centimeters long is drawn over the full length of the blades of an ordinary Carmalt clamp, as shown in Fig. 1. It was found that five or six hemostats can be held conveniently by one clamp. This method has the added advantage of holding the hemostats out of the way by applying additional weight. The application and removal of the clamp is simple, rapid, and dependable, if the blades are entirely covered by the ends of the rubber tubing.

The clamp has been used by the Department of Neurosurgery of The Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn and found to be convenient.